

Speaker Biographies

**Barbara Ibbitson, BSW, RSW, MSW**, is a registered social worker. She has a private practice and has been working in the rehabilitation field for 20 years. She specializes in trauma and recovery, and more specifically works with brain injured individuals and their families.

**Karen Mock, PhD**, a human rights consultant, is the former Executive Director of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation and of the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada. She is qualified by the courts as an expert in racism, discrimination, antisemitism and hate group activity, and chaired the Hate Crimes Community Working Group for the Government of Ontario. An educational psychologist by training, she is considered a pioneer in the field of multicultural/antiracist education, and has taught at the university level for more than 30 years.

**Janet Morrison, M.A., C. Psych Assoc.**, is registered with the College of Psychologists of Ontario and is the Past President of the Canadian Association of Psychoanalytic Child Therapists. Currently, she is a teaching and supervising member of the Toronto Child Psychoanalytic Program and an Adjunct Lecturer at the FIFSW. Her private practice includes psychological assessments and psychotherapy for children, adolescents and adults, and parent coaching.

**Marina Nemat** After the Islamic Revolution of 1979, Marina was arrested and spent more than two years in Evin, a political prison in Tehran. Her memoir "Prisoner of Tehran" has been an international bestseller. MacLean's Magazine has called it "...one of the finest (memoirs) ever written by a Canadian." It has been short listed for many literary awards, including the Young Minds Award in the UK and the Borders Original Voices Award in the US. Marina has received the inaugural Human Dignity Award from the European Parliament, and the Grinzane Prize in Italy. In 2008/2009, she was an Aurea Fellow at University of Toronto's Massey College, where she wrote her second book, "After Tehran: A Life Reclaimed".

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**Shoshana Pellman, BASc**, has spoken at TransPride and TransRemembrance events since 2005. After training as a Speaker she was a part of panels or the sole speaker at over 10 conferences and workshops. Recently she was in the CBC "The Current" documentary 'Back in the Closet' aired on June 20, 2011. Shoshana was interviewed for This Magazine, IN Magazine, CMAJ and Extra. She is also a GET SCREENED F/CANCER Ambassador.

**Steven Solomon, MSW, RSW**, is a doctoral candidate at the FIFSW. His research explores the use and receipt of homophobic and sexist language among middle school students. For 16 years Steven's practice with the Human Sexuality Program of the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) focused on supporting LGBT and Gender Independent students and their families. Steven is the author of "Homophobia: Deal with it and turn prejudice into pride", an interactive activity book for students in grades 4 through 7.

**Christina Van Sickle, BSW, MSW, RSW**, is the Professional Practice Chief of Social Work at Baycrest and is also serving as an interim Unit Director in the Apotex, Jewish Home for the Aged. Prior to working at Baycrest, Christina worked at St. Michael's hospital on a community mental health team as a social worker, addiction counsellor and team leader. Prior to this, Christina lived in England for four years practicing social work in community mental health, geriatrics, and addiction services. Recently Christina was elected to the board of directors for the Ontario Association of Social Workers as a regional director.

For more information about FIFSW Professors:  
[www.socialwork.utoronto.ca](http://www.socialwork.utoronto.ca)

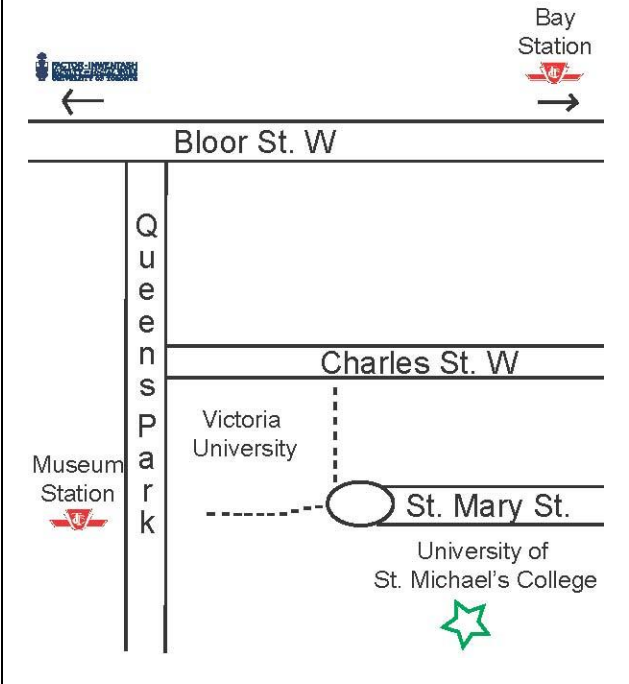
Upon arrival at **81 St. Mary St.** there will be signs leading you to **Brennan Hall**.

- - - - indicates approximate foot paths  
★ "Coop" in Brennan Hall

The event location is approximately a 15 minute walk from FIFSW.

Map is not to scale.

Parking information at St. Michael's:  
<http://stmikes.utoronto.ca/parking/default.asp>



**FACTOR - INWENTASH**  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL WORK  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Introduction to  
Social Work  
Conference 2014

MSW Year 1

**Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:45am – 4:00pm**  
**&**  
**Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:45am – 5:00pm**

University of Toronto  
St. Michael's College  
"The Coop" in Brennan Hall

81 St. Mary Street



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<p><b>Keith Adamson, PhD, MSW, RSW</b>, is Senior Director for Collaborative Practice at Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital. He began his career as a social worker in mental health and since then has held progressively senior positions related to Interprofessional and Professional Practice at Women’s College Hospital and St. Joseph’s Health Centre in Toronto. Keith is the past Chair of the Toronto Health Sciences Academic Network on Interprofessional Collaborative practice and a past Vice President at the Parkdale Community Health Centre (Toronto). He is currently the President of the Ontario Association of Social Workers.</p> <p><b>Alison Benedict, MSW</b>, is a member of the Mohawk Nation from Akwesasne, Wolf Clan. She received her Masters degree from the University of Michigan. She has worked with physically and/or sexually abused and neglected children, women and men who have experienced or perpetrated violence, residential school survivors and people of various ages experiencing other life challenges. Alison currently works at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) as the Provincial Aboriginal Training Coordinator, Aboriginal Engagement and Outreach, Provincial System Support Program.</p> <p><b>Susan Blacker, MSW, RSW</b>, is the Director of Cancer Services Planning and Performance at St. Michael’s Hospital in Toronto. She has held a wide range of clinical and management positions in Canada and the United States. Susan is a graduate of and is an Adjunct Professor at the FIFSW. She is also the Quality Co-lead and Lecturer (status-only) in the Division of Palliative Care, Department of Family and Community Medicine, UofT. She received the 2013 Excellence in Education award from the Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology.</p>	<p>8:45am <i>Continental Breakfast</i></p> <p>9:30 <b>Welcome</b> – Professor Andrea Litvack (Acting Associate Dean, Academic FIFSW), Professor Faye Mishna (Dean, FIFSW) Gillian McCloskey (Assoc. ED, OASW)</p> <p>9:45 <b>Introductory Address</b> – Judith Wolfson (Vice President, University Relations)</p> <p>10:05 <b>Toward Competence: Integrating Theory, Research &amp; Practice</b> – Professor Marion Bogo (FIFSW)</p> <p>10:30 <i>Break</i></p> <p>10:45 <b>Social Work in Rehab: Exploring a World of Possibilities</b> – Keith Adamson</p> <p>11:15 <b>Perspective from a Social Worker in Health Care</b> – Susan Blacker</p> <p>11:45 <i>Question and Answer</i></p> <p>12:00 <i>Lunch (provided)</i></p> <p>1:00 <b>Child Welfare and Social Work Practice: Making a Difference In The Lives of Children</b> – Deborah Goodman</p> <p>1:30 <b>Geriatrics: The Future of Social Work</b> – Christina Van Sickle</p> <p>2:00 <i>Question and Answer</i></p> <p>2:15 <b>My Journey as a Trans Person: What Professionals Need to Know</b> – Shoshana Pellman</p> <p>2:45 <i>Question and Answer</i></p> <p>3:00 <i>Break</i></p> <p>3:15 <b>Demystifying Social Work Private Practice</b> – Barbara Ibbitson</p> <p>3:45 <i>Question and Answer</i></p>	<p>8:45am <i>Continental Breakfast</i></p> <p>9:15 <b>Social Work and Social Media</b> – Professor Shelley Craig (FIFSW)</p> <p>9:45 <b>Aboriginal Issues in Social Work</b> – Renee Linklater</p> <p>10:15 <i>Question and Answer</i></p> <p>10:30 <i>Break</i></p> <p>10:45 <b>Psychodynamic Psychotherapy is About Relationships</b> – Janet Morrison</p> <p>11:15 <b>Your First Career is You: The Importance of Self-Care in Social Work</b> – Alison Benedict</p> <p>11:45 <i>Question and Answer</i></p> <p>12:00 <i>Lunch (provided)</i></p> <p>1:00 <b>Family Ties: Family Systems Theory in Action for Social Work Practice</b> – Professor Ramona Alaggia (FIFSW)</p> <p>1:30 <b>Diverse Gender Expressions: Social Workers and Practice with Gender Independent Children</b> – Steven Solomon</p> <p>2:00 <i>Question and Answer</i></p> <p>2:15 <b>Bearing Witness Through Literature: A Personal Journey</b> – Marina Nemat</p> <p>3:00 <i>Break</i></p> <p>3:15 <b>From Multiculturalism to Anti-Racism, to Equity: The Challenges of Putting Theory and Policy into Practice</b> – Karen Mock</p> <p>3:45 <i>Question and Answer</i></p> <p>4:00 <b>Building Bridges Across Canada’s Youth</b> – Canadian Roots Exchange</p> <p>4:30 <i>Evaluation/Book Raffle</i></p>	<p><b>Canadian Roots Exchange (CRE)</b>, is a youth-led organization that builds bridges between Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth across Canada. CRE youth leaders are actively involved in promoting respect, understanding and reconciliation within their communities. Their programs facilitate experiential learning and cross-cultural dialogue through cultural exchanges, workshops and conferences. CRE representatives are excited to speak about their programs as well as offering ways to get involved! <a href="http://www.canadianroots.ca">www.canadianroots.ca</a></p> <p><b>Deborah Goodman, MSW, PhD, RSW</b>, is the Director of the Child Welfare Institute (CWI) at the Children's Aid Society of Toronto. She is an Assistant Professor status-only at the FIFSW. She has worked, taught and conducted research in the Ontario child and family, child welfare and children's mental health fields for over 30 years. In 2007, she received the Outstanding Achievement in Research and Evaluation Award from the Child Welfare League of Canada.</p> <p><b>Renee Linklater, PhD</b>, is a member of Rainy River First Nations in Northwestern Ontario. Her PhD was completed with the Department of Adult Education and Counselling Psychology at OISE/UT. Her doctoral research is published in her new book <i>Decolonizing trauma work: Indigenous stories and strategies</i>. Renee has 20 years of experience working with Aboriginal healing agencies and First Nation communities. She has worked across the health and education sectors as a frontline worker, program evaluator, curriculum developer, and educator/trainer. Renee is Acting Director of Aboriginal Engagement and Outreach for the Provincial System Support Program at Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).</p>